

## Norton in the Community

Norton Events and Media Advisories  
January 26, 2005

### IRAQI BORN AMERICAN TO SPEAK AT NEWS CONFERENCE AS NORTON AND LIEBERMAN INTRODUCE VOTING RIGHTS BILL

Washington, DC—With Iraqi citizens set to vote in elections in Iraq on January 30, Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-DC) and Senator Joseph Lieberman (D-CT) will discuss their introduction of the No Taxation Without Representation Act of 2005 that seeks the same voting rights for the citizens of the District of Columbia, at a news conference at 10 AM tomorrow (Thursday, January 27, 2005) in Room SR-189 of the Russell Senate Office Building located at Constitution Avenue and 1st Street, NE. Norton and Lieberman will be joined by Andy Shallal, an Iraqi born D.C. businessman who plans to move to D.C. shortly. Shallal will thank residents who served in the military for what they have done to make voting rights possible in Baghdad and will tell them he will stand with residents who seek equal representation for the nation's capital.

Also at the news conference, Emory Kosh, a D.C. resident who served in Iraq, will respond to Shallal on behalf of himself and two other D.C. soldiers who came to Congress earlier this month to call for the return of the Committee of the Whole vote on the House floor for D.C., as a first step toward full representation. In addition, Ilir Zherka, Executive Director of DC Vote, will reveal details of a national campaign to make more Americans aware of the denial of voting representation for D.C. residents following a poll released yesterday. The nationwide poll found that 78% of Americans surveyed have serious misunderstandings about D.C. congressional representation, but Republicans and Democrats overwhelmingly support full voting rights for the District when informed of the lack of democracy here.

WHO: Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton  
Senator Joseph Lieberman  
Andy Shallal, Iraqi born D.C. businessman  
Emory Kosh, D.C. veteran  
Ilir Zherka, DC Vote

WHAT: News conference on the No Taxation Without Representation Act of 2005

WHEN: Thursday, January 27, 2005, 10 AM

WHERE: Russell Senate Office Building, Room 189

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June 22, 2004

### IMPORTANT NORTON PRIORITIES MOVE IN COMMITTEE AND HOUSE FLOOR THIS WEEK

Washington, DC—The Office of Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-DC) today announced a series of important bills and other legislative action scheduled for this week: a House hearing on D.C. voting rights bills tomorrow; full House consideration of Norton's bill recognizing the 40th anniversary of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 tomorrow; and a hearing on homeland security funding and planning in the National Capital Region on Thursday.

A Government Reform Committee hearing entitled, "Common Sense Justice for the Nation's Capital: An Examination of Proposals to Give D.C. Residents Direct Representation," will be held on Wednesday, June 23, 2004, at 10:00 AM in Room 2154 of the Rayburn House Office Building. Norton's No Taxation Without Representation Act will be among the four bills to be examined at the hearing. Government Reform Committee Chairman Tom Davis (R-VA), Rep. Ralph Regula (R-OH), and Rep. Dana Rohrabacher (R-CA) also have bills to bring voting rights to the citizens of the District of Columbia. "This hearing is important because it marks the first reemergence of bipartisan support for voting rights in the Congress in 30 years," Norton said. "I am particularly encouraged that three of my Republican colleagues have introduced bills because bipartisan support for D.C. voting rights is the breakthrough we need to end this denial." Witnesses will include Regula, Rohrabacher, Mayor Tony Williams; Council Chair Linda Cropp; Kenneth W. Starr, former U.S. solicitor general; and Betsy W. Werronen, Chairman, D.C. Republican Committee, among others.

Also tomorrow, House passage is expected on H.Res. 676, a bill Norton introduced last week to recognize and honor the 40th anniversary of congressional passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Norton is a former chair of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, established to administer the first federal anti-discrimination law, the most important provision in the 1964 Act. The bill is cosponsored by Rep. James Sensenbrenner (R-WI), Chairman of Judiciary Committee, and all 38 members of the Congressional Black Caucus. The companion to Norton's bill,

sponsored by Sen. Edward Kennedy (D-MA), passed in the Senate today.

On Thursday, June 24, at 10:15 AM, the Government Reform Committee will hold a hearing entitled, "Target Washington: Coordinating Federal Homeland Security Efforts with Local Jurisdictions in the National Capital Region," in Room 2154 Rayburn. The hearing will focus on regional emergency preparedness with an emphasis on how funds are distributed to jurisdictions. A GAO report that examined homeland security grants for the National Capital Region will be released. Witnesses will include Thomas Lockwood, Director of the Office of National Capital Region Coordination at the Department of Homeland Security; William Jenkins, Director of Homeland Security for the General Accounting Office; and top emergency management and security officials from the District, Maryland and Virginia.

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March 23, 2004

#### NORTON PRIORITIES DUE FOR PASSAGE ON FLOOR AND IN COMMITTEE

Washington, DC-- The Office of Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-DC) today announced that three of Congresswoman Norton's important legislative priorities will be on the congressional agenda this week: Norton will be the floor manager tomorrow, Wednesday, March 24, 2004, as the House is expected to pass on suspension her D.C. coin bill, the District of Columbia and United States Territories Circulating Quarter Dollar Program Act, that will allow the District to put a design of its choice on the reverse side of a quarter; tomorrow at 11 AM the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee will mark up the long-awaited transportation reauthorization bill (TEA-21) in Room 2167 Rayburn House Office Building; and Thursday at 10 AM in Room 2154 Rayburn, the Government Reform Committee will hold a hearing to reauthorize the popular D.C. College Access Act, the hearing is entitled: "Maintaining a Level Playing Field for D.C. Graduates."

Norton's College Access Act has sent more than 6,000 D.C. students to U.S. public colleges at low in-state tuition rates and provided tuition assistance for private colleges in the region and nationwide since it was passed in 1999. The success of the Act is likely to assure its reauthorization.

The House has twice passed a bill to give the District of Columbia and five territories a quarter coin bearing a design symbolic of their districts. Norton said she believes that previous barriers to Senate consideration will not block full passage this year, but the rules there have changed and will require her to get two-thirds of the Senate.###

March 10, 2004

#### NORTON TO PRESS HER RACIAL PROFILING BILL AT CBC HEARING

Washington, DC--TheOffice of Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-DC) today announced that she will join Congressional Black Caucus Chairman Elijah Cummings (D-MD) and other CBC Members at a hearing entitled, "How are Communities of Color Impacted by the \$300 billion TEA-21 Reauthorization," Thursday, March 11, 2004, from 2:00 to 5:00 PM in Room 2203 of the Rayburn House Office Building. Norton is a senior Member of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee and the author of the Racial Profiling Prohibition Act that would use transportation funding to leverage state action to eliminate the widespread practice of traffic stops on the basis of race or ethnic identity. Norton has gotten support from Transportation Committee Democrats to make her bill a priority for inclusion in the Transportation Equity Act (TEA-21), to be reauthorized this year.

Norton said, "This hearing is important not only to have a discussion about the imperative of addressing racial profiling, but also because of the urgency of addressing other transportation funding and infrastructure investment issues vital to communities of color. Among them are mass transit funding, air quality and minority contracting opportunities."

What: CBC Transportation Hearing  
Topics: Environment/Transit Investment; Jobs/Economic Stimulus;  
Civil Rights; Community Involvement/Local Control

When: Thursday, March 11, 2004, 2:00-5:00 PM

Where: 2203 Rayburn Building, Independence Avenue & South Capitol Street, SW  
Witnesses: Thomas W. Sanchez, Department of Urban Affairs and Planning, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University; Alfred H. Foxx, Director, Baltimore Department of Transportation; Robert D. Bullard, Director, Environmental Justice Resource Center  
Clark Atlanta University;

Robert Puentes, Senior Research Manager, Center on Urban and Metropolitan Studies,  
The Brookings Institution;  
Calvin Smith, Director, Department of Human Services, Planning and Public Safety,  
for the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments;  
Julie Cunningham, Director, Conference of Minority Transportation Officials;  
Anne Canby, Surface Transportation Policy Project;  
Myron Orfield, Director, Institute on Race and Poverty, University of Minnesota Law School

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March 4, 2004

## NORTON ANNOUNCES CONGRESSIONAL HEARING ON LEAD IN REGION'S WATER TO PROBE FEDERAL RESPONSIBILITY

Washington, DC—The Office of Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-DC) today announced that the Government Reform Committee hearing she requested to examine the role of federal agencies in the lead contamination of D.C. water will be held at 10 AM, Friday, March 5, 2004, in Room 2154 of the Rayburn House Office Building. The hearing entitled, "Public Confidence, Down the Drain: The Federal Role in Ensuring Safe Drinking Water in the District of Columbia," will assess the responsibilities and actions of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Washington Aqueduct of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and their coordination with the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority (WASA). The Committee will hear from witnesses representing the three agencies who will discuss: (1) the origins of the water crisis, health risks and remedies; (2) whether the drinking water is properly monitored and protected; and (3) the adequacy of federal regulations concerning lead in drinking water.

Norton first requested the hearing in a February 10 letter to Chairman Tom Davis (R-VA) after being briefed by officials of the two federal agencies. The Congresswoman said that among other things, she is concerned about the delivery and policing of the city's drinking water and about inadequate public notification of health risks. She said that while WASA bears primary responsibility for these problems, equally serious questions about the roles of the EPA and the Army Corps remain to be understood and may require federal remedies.

The Committee expects to hear from the following witnesses:

Benjamin H. Grumbles, Acting Assistant Administrator, EPA Office of Water

Donald S. Welch, Regional Administrator, EPA Region III

Thomas P. Jacobus, General Manager, Washington Aqueduct, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Glenn S. Gerstell, Chairman, WASA, accompanied by Jerry Johnson, General Manager and Michael S. Marcotte, Chief Engineer/Deputy General Manager

Erik Olson, Senior Attorney, Natural Resources Defense Council

Ellen Silbergeld, Professor, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

Marc Edwards, Professor, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University###

January 26, 2004

## NORTON TO SPEAK AT RALLY AND TRIAL TO SUPPORT CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE PROTESTORS FOR BUDGET AUTONOMY AND FULL DEMOCRACY FOR D.C.

Washington, DC—Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-DC) tomorrow will speak at a rally and attend the trial of seven D.C. residents who have risked jail to protest congressional oversight of the District's local budget raised exclusively from D.C., not federal, taxpayers. She will speak in support of the seven at a pre-trial rally at 8 AM tomorrow in front of Superior Court, 500 Indiana Avenue, NW. The activists were arrested in the office of House Speaker Dennis Hastert (R-IL) on October 1, 2003, while demanding budget autonomy for the District of Columbia. The rally is sponsored by the "Stand Up! for Democracy in D.C. Coalition."

Julia Hudson, Norton's Chief of Staff, will testify at the trial concerning the decorum of the protestors, who came to Norton's office to deliver petitions in support of the D.C. Budget Autonomy Act and full rights for D.C. residents. The seven then went to Hastert's office.

Norton praised the residents, known as the "Budget Autonomy for the District Day Seven" (B.A.D. Day

Seven), and others who are part of grassroots efforts to achieve budget autonomy and voting rights for D.C. residents. She said that the trial, coming on the heels of the first in the nation voting rights primary, complements her legislative efforts for D.C.'s independence and equality, including the D.C. Budget Autonomy Act that passed the Senate last year that Norton is pressing through the House this year.

Norton said: "I want to be there on Tuesday simply to support residents who have joined an age old, revered tradition of non-violent resistance to injustice. The B.A.D. Day Seven have taken risks for their beliefs and for the rest of us.###

January 22, 2004

**NORTON, KENNEDY TO SPEAK AT COALITION RALLY CALLED TO TURN BACK D.C. VOUCHERS** Washington, DC-- Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-DC) and Senator Edward Kennedy (D-MA) are among the speakers scheduled today at a Next Steps Rally against imposing private school vouchers on D.C., sponsored by the Coalition for Accountable Public Schools (CAPS). Several other senators who were prominent in the fight against attaching vouchers to D.C. appropriations, D.C. elected officials, parents, clergy and representatives of civil rights and other organizations committed to public education also are expected to speak at 2:00 PM, Thursday, January 22, 2004, in Room 192 Dirksen Senate Office Building. Rally sponsors are galvanizing public school supporters to discuss the measures they will take to turn back vouchers expected to be imposed on D.C. despite the opposition of the majority of the city's elected officials and the failure of voucher proponents to get a vote in the Senate. The rally will occur as the Senate is expected to pass the omnibus budget bill that includes D.C. vouchers and several other controversial bills that never came to the Senate floor. The House last year attached D.C. vouchers by one vote, after the vote was held open for 40 minutes.

CAPS is comprised of D.C. residents, educators, and civil rights, labor, religious and other advocacy groups devoted to strengthening public education

What: Rally to Discuss Next Steps for D.C. Voucher Opponents

Who: Congresswoman Norton, Senator Kennedy

D.C. Council and School Board Members Iris Toyer, Parents United and others Presiding: Rev. Jeffrey Haggray, D.C.

Baptist Convention When: Thursday, January 22, 2 PM

Where: 192 Dirksen Senate Office Building, 1st & C Streets, NE

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October 22, 2003

**NORTON GETS HEARING ON POSTAL FACILITY AT BRENTWOOD IN PREPARATION FOR ITS OPENING**

Washington, DC--At the request of Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-DC), the House Government Reform Committee will hold a hearing entitled, "Open for Business: Ensuring Employee and Customer Safety at the Former Brentwood Postal Facility," on, Thursday, October 23, 2003 at 1:30 PM, in Room 2154, Rayburn House Office Building. At a July 26, 2002 congressional field hearing in the Brentwood community that the Congresswoman also requested, she said that she would seek another hearing prior to the opening of the facility now renamed the Joseph Curseen, Jr. and Thomas Morris, Jr. Processing and Distribution Center (Curseen-Morris Facility).

The purpose of tomorrow's hearing is to assess the fitness and safety of the postal center for employees and the public and to determine whether any further action by Congress is needed to prevent future bio-terrorism incidents.

Earlier, the Congresswoman proposed that she and other public officials be the first to enter the Curseen-Morris Facility when it formally opens. Union and postal officials have since said that they would join Norton's effort to reassure employees and customers, who continue to have concerns about its safety.

WHAT: Government Reform Committee Hearing on the former Brentwood Postal Facility Requested by Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton

WHO: Witnesses: Bernard L. Unger, Director, Physical Infrastructure Issues, General Accounting Office;

R. Davis Layne, Deputy Asst. Sec. of Labor, OSHA, Dept.

of Labor; Thomas Day, V.P. of Engineering, USPS; Jerry Lane, Manager,

Capitol Metro Operations, USPS; Ted Gordon, Senior Deputy Director for

Public Health Assurance, D.C. Dept. of Health; Dick Collins, Asst. to the

National President, National Postal Mail Handlers Union; Mike Reid, Asst.

Legislative Director, American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO

WHEN: Thursday, October 23, 2003

WHERE: 2154 Rayburn Building, S. Capitol Street and Independence Ave., SW

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September 23, 2003

#### NORTON TO HONOR D.C. NATIONAL GUARDSMAN KILLED IN IRAQ AT D.C. STAMP ISSUE CEREMONY

Washington, DC&mdash;Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-DC) will present the new U.S. Postal Service (USPS) commemorative D.C. postage stamp to Vernon Dent, Sr., the father of D.C. National Guard Specialist Darryl Dent, who was killed last month in Iraq, at a public first day of issue ceremony, Tuesday, September 23, 2003, at the new City Museum. Norton said, "I wanted to honor Specialist Dent and his brave service and thank his family for their sacrifice and loss by giving Mr. Dent the historic stamp the first day it goes on sale. I hope that all who buy the stamp will view it as a tribute to the 21-year old Washingtonian, all Americans who have died in combat and those who continue to serve in Iraq."

Norton got the Postal Service to develop a stamp featuring D.C.'s hometown identity after the USPS announced a 50 state collection and no D.C. stamp. She said that she was gratified that the Postal Service had worked closely with her and had produced a unique diamond shaped stamp depicting row houses from the Shaw community, the original plan for the District, portions of the current map, the city's popular cherry blossoms, and well known monuments.

The 37-cent D.C. stamp will be available at tomorrow's event and at post offices in the District on Sept. 23. The stamp will be available at post offices across the country starting Sept. 24.

WHAT: Norton Presentation to Vernon Dent at First Day of Issue  
Ceremony for the Hometown D.C. Commemorative Postage Stamp

WHO: Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton  
Mayor Anthony Williams  
Postmaster Delores J. Killelte, Washington, D.C. WHEN: Tuesday, Sept. 23, 2003  
2:00 PM

WHERE: City Museum, The Great Hall  
801 K Street, N.W.